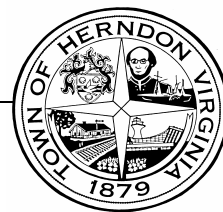


# TOWN OF HERNDON

*Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community*



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES FY 2009 BUDGET**

Herndon, VA (April 23, 2008) – At its public hearing on Tuesday evening, April 22, the Herndon Town Council voted to approve the Town's budget for the 2009 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2008 and ends June 30, 2009.

Highlights of the \$43,908,908 budget, which represents a 4.1 percent increase from the FY 2008 budget, include retention of the real estate tax, at \$.24 per \$100 of assessed value; retention of the meals and transient occupancy taxes (1.5 percent and six percent, respectively); and a three percent increase in water and sewer service rates, a continuation of incremental increases to those rates as recommended by a comprehensive utility rate study completed for the Town in FY2006.

Under the approved FY 2009 budget, general fund recurring budget expenditures increase 2.2 percent over FY 2008 expenditures, to total \$31,668,526.

The FY 2009 General Fund Capital Improvement Program (CIP) focuses on infrastructure improvements, to include stream bank stabilization, park equipment replacement, metrorail station area plan and technical studies, improvements to Station Street and the Park-

Monroe intersection and improvements to the Town Shop. The total CIP, including Enterprise Fund capital projects, is \$3,585,020.

Among the amendments made by Mayor Steve DeBenedittis and members of the Town Council to the recommended FY 2009 budget submitted by Town Manager Art Anselene on March 28, 2008, were amendments to the CIP to take into consideration the Planning Commission recommended CIP, released on April 1, 2008. Funding of \$40,000 was provided for streetlights, \$100,000 for storm drainage improvements and an additional \$40,000 for sidewalks and minor trails. The Town Manager's proposed funding for gateway signs, totaling \$60,000, was deferred until FY 2010.

To accomplish the above objectives, the Town will issue a \$1,250,000 bond in June 2009, an increase of \$180,000 over the Town Manager's proposed bond issue of \$1,070,000.

The Council also adjusted employee compensation to fully fund the cost-of-living increase for sworn police personnel at 2.96 percent and to fund an average pay-for-performance award for non-sworn employees at 3.75 percent.

"I applaud my colleagues on this council, the Town Manager, Town staff and – most importantly – the citizens who took time to speak, email or call with input on the FY 2009 Budget," said DeBenedittis. "Together we have crafted a budget that minimizes the tax burden on citizens while maintaining the services and programs they expect and deserve."

Copies of the FY 2009 approved budget will be available beginning July 1, 2008, on the Town's website, [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned

establishments, employ approximately 23,500 people. In 2006, Herndon was named one of the “best affordable suburbs” in the nation by *Business Week* Magazine.

For more information, visit the Town’s website at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

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